

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
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C:RHOPPER

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EUR/RPM:SLEDOGAR

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN

USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 214258

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CSCE, GW, GE, UR, WB

SUBJECT: BELGRADE CSCE -- TREATMENT OF BERLIN

REFS: A) BONN 13236; B) BONN 12522; C) BONN 12094

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BELGRADE FOR USDEL CSCE

1. WE AGREE WITH FRENCH AND FRG THAT IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE
FOR ALLIES TO KEEP EACH OTHER INFORMED ABOUT HOW THEY PLAN
TO TREAT BERLIN DURING BELGRADE MEETING. LIKE FRG, WE WISH
TO DEAL WITH BERLIN IN LOW-KEY FASHION. OUR PREFERENCE IS
TO KEEP OUR REMARKS GENERAL AND POLITICAL RATHER THAN

LEGALISTIC OR TIED TO ANY SPECIFIC BERLIN DEVELOPMENT OF PAST TWO YEARS.

2. OUR PUBLIC STATEMENT FOR FIRST WEEK PLENARY HAS NOT YET BEEN DRAFTED. WE ARE INCLINED, HOWEVER, TOWARD INCLUDING A BRIEF REFERENCE TO BERLIN IN THIS SPEECH. SUCH A REFERENCE WOULD PROBABLY NOTE HISTORICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT ON BERLIN AND FINAL ACT, WOULD REFER BACK TO BERLIN STATEMENTS MADE BY ALLIED HEADS OF STATE AT HELSINKI, NOTE THAT BERLIN REMAINS PRACTICAL TEST CASE OF DETENTE AND SAY THAT BERLIN MUST

CONTINUE TO BENEFIT FROM FINAL ACT IF CSCE EXERCISE IS TO PROSPER. WE BELIEVE INCLUSION OF COMMENT TO THIS EFFECT IN PUBLIC STATEMENT WOULD BE WELL RECEIVED BY BERLINERS AND WOULD SIGNAL OUR CONTINUED COMMITMENT TO BASIC POLITICAL POINT THAT BERLIN SITUATION REMAINS CENTRAL TO EAST-WEST RELATIONSHIP.

3. WE HAVE NOT YET DECIDED WHETHER TO REFER TO BERLIN ALSO DURING DETAILED REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF PRINCIPLES DECLARATION. WHETHER WE EVENTUALLY DO SO AND IN WHAT CONTEXT WOULD DEPEND IN PART UPON HOW DEBATE IN THAT WORKING GROUP DEVELOPS. WE HAVE, HOWEVER, CITED BERLIN PROBLEMS IN BOTH SEMI-ANNUAL PRESIDENTIAL REPORTS TO CSCE COMMISSION. -
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4. WE THINK IT MIGHT ALSO BE DESIRABLE FOR ALLIES TO GIVE SOME THOUGHT TO POSSIBLE DEFENSIVE TALKING POINTS THAT MIGHT BE USED IF SOVIETS OR GDR WERE TO MAKE PREJUDICIAL COMMENTS EITHER IN THEIR PUBLIC OPENING STATEMENTS OR DURING DETAILED WORKING GROUP REVIEW. WE NOTED IN FBIS REPORTING, FOR EXAMPLE, FOLLOWING REMARKS BY GDR POLITBURO MEMBER HARRY TISCH TO 20TH WORKERS' CONFERENCE OF THE BALTIC COUNTRIES, JULY 13 IN ROSTOCK: "WE ARE GUIDED BY THE FACT THAT THE BALANCE SHEET SINCE HELSINKI, IN SPITE OF STILL EXISTING IMPEDIMENTS, IS POSITIVE. PROOF OF THIS RESTS IN THE FACT THAT SINCE 1975, THE GDR ALONE HAS CONCLUDED 54 TREATIES, AGREEMENTS AND PROTOCOLS WITH 16 CAPITALIST COUNTRIES PARTICIPATING IN THE HELSINKI CSCE CONFERENCE AND TWO AGREEMENTS WITH WEST BERLIN."

5. IMPLICATION IN THIS STATEMENT THAT WEST BERLIN IS A CAPITALIST COUNTRY NOT PARTICIPATING IN CSCE WITH WHICH GDR HAS CONCLUDED INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS IS CONTRARY TO OUR LEGAL VIEW NOT ONLY OF MANNER IN WHICH BERLIN IS TO PARTICIPATE IN CSCE BENEFITS BUT ALSO TO OUR POSITION THAT WESTERN SECTORS OF CITY ARE NOT LEGAL ENTITY COMPETENT TO

ENTER INTO INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS. IF SIMILAR STATEMENT IS MADE AT BELGRADE, WE WOULD CONSIDER MAKING LOW-KEY REBUTTAL AT APPROPRIATE TIME ALONG FOLLOWING LINES: FINAL ACT INDICATES THAT ITS BENEFICIAL EFFECTS SHOULD BE ENJOYED THROUGHOUT EUROPE; THIS INCLUDES BERLIN; ALTHOUGH ULTIMATE RESPONSIBILITY FOR ENTIRE CITY REMAINS WITH THE FOUR POWERS, WE WELCOME ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN RELEVANT LOCAL AUTHORITIES THAT ARE INTENDED TO BRING PRACTICAL BENEFITS TO THE INHABITANTS OF THAT CITY AND HOPE THAT ADDITIONAL PRACTICAL STEPS WILL BE POSSIBLE FURTHER TO IMPROVE SITUATION IN CITY.

6. WE NOTE THAT BOTH UK AND US WILL SPEAK AFTER SOVIETS IN OPENING WEEK, BUT THAT GDR WILL SPEAK AFTER ALL BONN
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GROUP MEMBERS. IT WOULD THUS BE POSSIBLE TO ADJUST EITHER US OR UK OPENING STATEMENTS TO TAKE INTO ACCOUNT WHAT SOVIETS MIGHT SAY ABOUT BERLIN. IF GDR SAYS SOMETHING, HOWEVER, ANY REBUTTAL COULD ONLY COME DURING CLOSED PLENARY DEBATE IN SECOND OR THIRD WEEK OR IN SUBSEQUENT CLOSED WORKING GROUP MEETING.

7. WE WILL ATTEMPT TO ADVISE BONN GROUP AS SOON AS POSSIBLE OF PRECISE BERLIN LANGUAGE WE WOULD PROPOSE TO INCLUDE IN OUR OPENING STATEMENT. IN MEANTIME WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN ANY BONN GROUP VIEWS ON MATTER RAISED PARAS 4-6 ABOVE.

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